

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 030936Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2701

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 22475

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SENATOR HUMPHREY'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: SENATOR HUMPHREY'S CALL ON FOREIGN
MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES AND SENATOR HUMPHREY HELD 45 MINUTE TOUR DE HORIZON MEETING SEPTEMBER 1. THEY DISCUSSED THE NEW EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT, ITS CONGRESSIONAL IMPLICATIONS, BILATERAL US-FRENCH RELATIONS, GREECE AND TURKEY, RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, SALT, AND THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS. END SUMMARY

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES, AFTER GREETING THE SENATOR AND HIS STAFF MEMBER, MR. NEIL PETERSON, HAILED THE SECRETARY'S SPLENDID ACCOMPLISHMENT IN ARRIVING AT ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. HE ASKED THE SENATOR'S EVALUATION OF ITS PROSPECTS IN THE CONGRESS. THE SENATOR PREDICTED A VIGOROUS DEBATE, WITH CAREFUL CONGRESSIONAL EXAMINATION OF THE FINE PRINT OF THE AGREEMENT AND EXTENSIVE TESTIMONY BY THE SECRETARY. HOWEVER, HE STATED FIRMLY THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE APPROVED BY CONGRESS AND EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL FEELING THAT WHATEVER RISKS OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT WERE IMPLICIT

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IN THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN OBSERVERS, THE RISKS MUST

BE ACCEPTED IF WE ARE TO SEE CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THE ME. THE SENATOR PREDICTED THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD INVOLVE HIMSELF NEXT IN ANOTHER INSTALLMENT OF GOLAN HEIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER REMARKED WITH PLEASURE THAT THE SECRETARY AT THE MARTINIQUE PRESIDENTIAL MEETING HAD AGREED WITH THE FRENCH IDEA OF LINKING THE PARTS OF A STEP-BY-STEP SETTLEMENT TO THE LARGER CONTINUING PROCESS. SAUVAGNARGUES STATED THAT FRENCH POLICY IN THE AREA IS TO AVOID PUTTING ANY OBSTACLES IN THE SECRETARY'S PATH AND TO BRING THE EC-9 ALONG IN SUPPORT OF THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS.

3. TURNING TO BILATERAL RELATIONS SAUVAGNARGUES STATED THAT THE DAYS OF "COCK FIGHTS BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTERS" WERE OVER AND DONE WITH. HE AND THE SENATOR WELCOMED THE NEW WARM RELATIONS AND THE LARGE AREA OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. ASKED ABOUT GREEK-TURK PROBLEM, SAUVAGNARGUES WAS MILDLY PESSIMISTIC. HE INDICATED THAT FRANCE WAS MORE WILLING THAN GERMANY OR OTHER EC PARTNERS TO PRESS THE TURKS FOR CONCESSIONS WHICH MIGHT GET A GENUINE AGREEMENT GOING BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY ON CYPRUS. HE SAW DEMIREL'S INTERNAL PROBLEM AS THE REAL IMPEDIMENT TO PROGRESS. SAUVAGNARGUES WAS CRITICAL OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON TURKISH AID SAYING THAT THE US LEVER HAD BEEN BROKEN. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD WARNED SENATOR MANSFIELD TO THIS EFFECT A YEAR AGO. HE HOPED THAT HIS TRIP TO ANKARA IN OCTOBER MIGHT BE HELPFUL, BUT INSISTED THAT FRANCE MUST BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL TO AVOID ANY PUBLIC PRESSURE. HE AGREED WITH SENATOR HUMPHREY THAT THE TURKS HAD BEEN QUITE UNREASONABLE AND HAD MADE THINGS WORSE IN THE CONGRESS. SENATOR HUMPHREY SAW A WILLINGNESS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO RESTORE AID, IF ONLY THE TURKS WOULD MAKE A FEW CONCESSIONS, SUCH AS REOPEN THE NICOSIA AIRPORT, AND MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS ON FAMAGUSTA AND REFUGEES. CONFIDENTIAL

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5. SAUVAGNARGUES FORESAW NO BASIC CHANGE IN SOVIET POLICY WHETHER OR NOT BREZHNEV WERE TO LEAVE THE GOVERNMENT IN THE NEXT YEAR. HE CHARACTERIZED CRITICISM OF ALLEGED WESTERN CONCESSIONS IN CSCE AS RUBBISH AND STATED THAT THE FINAL ACT WAS ALL THAT WE COULD HAVE WANTED. HE SAID THAT BASKET III HAD TURNED OUT BETTER THAN HE EXPECTED.

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6. ON SALT, SAUVAGNARGUES REPLIED TO THE SENATOR'S QUERY BY SAYING THAT FRANCE IS CONTENT TO BE A BYSTANDER. IT HAS NO FEARS OF ANY US-SOVIET CONDOMINIUM AND WILL WELCOME A GOOD AGREEMENT.

7. TURNING TO NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS, SAUVAGNARGUES SPOKE AT SOME LENGTH ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS QUESTION TO FRANCE. HE STATED THAT FRENCH VIEWS WERE NOW CLOSER TO THE US THAN FORMERLY AND COMMENTED THAT THE SECRETARY'S VIEWS IN PRIVATE WERE MORE GENEROUS THAN HIS PUBLIC SPEECHES. HE EXPRESSED SOME CRITICISM OF THE KANSAS CITY SPEECH AS TOO HARD-LINE. SAUVAGNARGUES SAID THAT THE US NEED NOT WORRY OVER THE LDC'S NEW ECONOMIC ORDER RHETORIC BUT SAID THAT WE NEED SOME CHANGE FROM THE DISORDER WHICH NOW CHARACTERIZES DEVELOPED-LESS DEVELOPED RELATIONS. HE DISMISSED AS EXCESSIVE THE SENATOR'S CONCERN ABOUT EXPROPRIATION PHRASEOLOGY BY THE LDCS. SUCH IDEOLOGICAL RHETORIC, HE SAID, WAS OFFENSIVE TO US BUT WE NEED NOT OURSELVES RESORT TO IT.

8. SAUVAGNARGUES HAILED WHAT HE SAW AS A SHIFT IN US POLICY AWAY FROM A DESIRE TO BREAK UP OPEC. HE

TERMED THE IEA A USEFUL TOOL BUT ONE THAT SHOULD NOT
BE EMPLOYED AS A WEAPON.
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9. CONCERNING PREPCON II, THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD
THE SENATOR THAT THE CONSENSUS STILL HAS A FEW
SMALL IMPEDIMENTS IN ITS WAY. ALGERIAN INSISTENCE
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MONETARY PROBLEMS IS THE
PRIMARY HANDICAP, HE REPORTED. HE BELIEVED THAT
SAUDI PROBLEMS COULD BE OVERCOME MORE EASILY. ASKED
ABOUT LIBYA, SAUVAGNARGUES SAID THAT LIBYANS FEEL
NEGLECTED AND DESPITE QUADAFI'S EXTREMISM IT WAS
IMPORTANT TO KEEP TALKING TO THE LIBYANS.
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